

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Please amend claim 1 as indicated below and please cancel claims 31-50 without prejudice.

Complete Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of configuring a process plant related to analyzing a plurality of process control instruments adapted for capable of use in a specific process control environment, comprising ~~the steps of:~~

receiving data related to the specific process control environment, in which at least one of the plurality of process control instruments ~~are~~ is potentially to be used, via a computer device;

determining, using the computer device, one or more performance characteristics for each of the plurality of process control instruments indicating the performance of each of the process control instruments when used in the specific process control environment; and

displaying the performance characteristics for each of the plurality of the process control instruments simultaneously via the computer device.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including the step of calculating the performance characteristics for each of the plurality of process control instruments using the received data.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including the step of retrieving, from a memory of the computer device, the performance characteristics for each of the plurality of process control instruments based on the received data.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the computer device is a personal computer.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, where the computer device is a web-enabled device.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of process control instruments are each flow meters.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of process control instruments is a Coriolis type of flow meter.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of process control instruments is a vortex type of flow meter.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of process control instruments is a magnetic type of flow meter.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of process control instruments is a differential pressure type of flow meter.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of process control instruments is a thermal mass type of flow meter.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the plurality of process control instruments is an ultrasonic type of flow meter.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the receiving step is performed by entering the data through a keyboard of the computer device.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the receiving step is performed by downloading the data from a memory.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the receiving step is performed by importing the data from a database.

16. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the calculating step involves the step of calculating performance characteristics of each of the plurality of process control instruments over an entire range of operation of each process control instrument.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the displaying step involves the step of displaying performance characteristics of each of the plurality of process control instruments in a graphical manner.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the displaying step provides a comparison between installed performance and performance at reference conditions.

19. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the process control instruments are flow meters and wherein the step of displaying provides performance data as a function of flow rate from a maximum level to a minimum level.

20. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the calculating step further includes the step of calculating the size of the process control instrument needed to satisfy the process control application.

21. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including the step of saving the received data in a memory of the computer device.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, further including the step of assigning an electronic tag to the saved data to facilitate later retrieval.

23. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the receiving data step includes receiving a selection of the plurality of process control instruments to be used in the analysis.

24. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the process control instruments are each flow meters, and wherein the calculating step includes the step of calculating flow meter accuracy as a continuous function of flow rate.

25. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the process control instruments are each flow meters, and wherein the calculating step includes the step of calculating straight pipe requirements for each of the flow meters.

26. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the process control instruments are each flow meters, and wherein the calculating step includes the step of calculating fluid pressure losses for each of the flow meters.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the calculating step includes the calculation of pressure loss due to pipe fittings.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the calculated performance characteristics are displayed graphically.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the graphical display includes pictorial representations of pipe, pipe fittings, and flow meters.

30. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the calculating step involves calculating installed costs associated with the plurality of process control instruments.

31-50. (Canceled)